

include 30 U.S. research libraries and 10 international research libraries.

It is important to note the ongoing, extensive assistance the Senate Foreign Relations Committee receives from the Jakarta LOC office. Research and preparation for committee projects on issues ranging from global food security, to international trade, non-proliferation, the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, EITI, counter-terrorism and human trafficking, have been augmented by the diligent efforts of LOC staff in Jakarta and elsewhere in the region.

The Jakarta LOC office ensures that the U.S. Congress and the Congressional Research Service have up-to-date legal and legislative regional information, and it assists other U.S. Government agencies in providing and sharing open source information as well as acquiring publications.

The Jakarta LOC office has also worked with the House Democracy Partnership, HDP, and The Asia Foundation to create a legislative library for the National Parliament of Timor-Leste and to train the library staff, and is cooperating with the HDP to develop a parliamentary research service and an improved information technology system there.

Indonesia is a young democracy. Its Parliament is confronted with many challenges, including the development of its own operational and staff infrastructure. The LOC office in Jakarta serves as a bridge facilitating communications and meetings between the staff of the U.S. Congress and the Indonesian Parliament. Our counterparts in the Indonesian Parliament have expressed appreciation for this initiative.

In conclusion, I am grateful for the assistance provided to the U.S. Senate by the Southeast Asia LOC office, and wanted to take this opportunity to openly convey my appreciation.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING SAM HAMILTON

• Mr. NELSON of Florida. Madam President, I speak today to commemorate the life of a true friend of Florida, Mr. Sam Hamilton, who passed away on Saturday. In September of last year, Mr. Hamilton became the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. That was a fitting position for a man who had dedicated 30 years to protecting the Nation's natural resources and wildlife.

Long before he was Director of Fish and Wildlife, Mr. Hamilton was committed to this country's wild spaces. Just last month, I was fortunate enough to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for an Everglades restoration project called the Picayune Strand, and Mr. Hamilton was there. It was a proud day for us all, but certainly for a man who had worked so long on Everglades issues and knew how much this project would benefit the endangered

Florida panther. On that unusually cold morning, he spoke about his experience in the Youth Conservation Corps at 15 years old in Mississippi and how that molded his dedication to wildlife conservation. Mr. Hamilton started his career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Texas. He moved up the ranks to become the southeast region's director based in Atlanta.

During his time in Atlanta, he oversaw the Service's role in restoring the Everglades ecosystem. He took the Service's role of advising Federal agencies with regard to the Endangered Species Act seriously. He knew the ins and outs of the Apalachicola-Chatahoochee-Flint River Basin, and worked to protect the threatened and endangered species that call that system home, like the gulf sturgeon and the purple bankclimber mussel.

Mr. Hamilton was an avid fisher and hunter, and this gave him perspective on how to work with people from different backgrounds towards a common goal of conserving America's wildlife and the habitat that sustains it. I know that I echo my friends at the Department of the Interior like Secretary Ken Salazar and the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Tom Strickland when I say that Mr. Hamilton will be sorely missed and his great contributions to my state and the country at large will not be forgotten. And to his family: wife Becky, sons Sam Jr. and Clay, and grandson Davis, you are in our thoughts during this difficult time. Thank you for helping your husband, father, and grandfather to serve this country.●

#### TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE PATERSON

• Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I wish to acknowledge the lifetime work and recent achievements of Katherine Paterson of Barre, VT. Recently, Ms. Paterson was named National Ambassador for Young People's Literature by the Librarian of Congress James H. Billington.

Katherine Paterson's accomplishments as an author surely merit her appointment. She has twice been awarded the prestigious Newbery Medal, once for "Bridge to Terabithia" and a second time for "Jacob Have I Loved." In addition, she won the National Book Award, also twice, for "The Great Gilly Hopkins" and "The Master Puppeteer." Nor are these the only major recognitions of her importance as one of the major writers of our time. She has won 19 additional literary awards for other works, including the Hans Christian Andersen Medal, the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award and the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, which was awarded to her by her home State of Vermont.

Katherine Paterson was named a Living Legend by the Library of Congress in 2000.

Her most recent book is "The Day of the Pelican," a moving, dramatic story

of a refugee family's flight from war-torn Kosovo to America. It is the 2010 selection for Vermont Reads, a statewide reading program.

Katherine Paterson has long been dedicated to promoting literacy among young people, which makes her appointment as National Ambassador for Young People's Literature particularly appropriate. She has chosen "Read for Your Life" as the theme for her platform for the upcoming 2 years as National Ambassador. Throughout her tenure, she will be a most articulate advocate for the importance of literature in young people's lives.

We in Vermont are proud of Katherine Paterson's accomplishments as a writer. We are proud of her dedication to literacy among young readers. And, at this moment, we are proud that our national library, the Library of Congress, has conferred upon her this new honor, and the enlarged task of being the Nation's leading advocate for young people's literature.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### PROPOSED CONSTITUTION FOR THE VIRGIN ISLANDS—PM 47

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with the requirements of Public Law 94-584 (the "Act"), I hereby transmit to the Congress a proposed constitution for the United States Virgin Islands (USVI). The constitution, drafted by the Fifth Constitutional Convention of the United States Virgin Islands, was submitted to me on December 31, 2009, by Governor John P. deJongh, United States Virgin Islands. In submitting the proposed constitution, Governor deJongh expressed his concerns about several provisions of the proposed constitution, but he also expressed his hope that the people of the United States Virgin Islands continue to "move ahead towards [their] goal of increased local governmental autonomy."

The Act requires that I submit this proposed constitution to the Congress,